(a) whether in the name of sensational newsitem, news is publicised by some T.V. channels in such a manner as to trigger arson, vandalism and riots;

(b) whether these T.V. channels are pushing yellow journalism in the name of sting operation;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check them; and

(d) the mechanism under consideration to curb it all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) Although no such specific trend has been brought to the notice of the Government, certain aberrations have been reported in the media. However, all the programmes including news of satellite TV channels transmitted or retransmitted through cable service are required to adhere to the provisions of Programme Code and Advertisement Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and rules framed thereunder. With a view to look into the violation of the Code, the Central Government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC). The Committee either *suo motu* or on receipt of the complaint examines cases of violation and if any violation is noted, action is taken against the TV channel as per rules. The Government has constituted a committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes (Content Code) prescribed under the Cable Television Networks(Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder to provide greater specificity to the provisions of existing codes. The Committee has submitted its report on 5.3.2008.

Recruitment in Prasar Bharti

1940. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BECIL is supplying manpower to Prasar Bharti on contractual basis;

(b) whether these workers are not being paid wages as prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether such temporary recruitments in Prasar Bharti is blocking the recruitment of professionals on regular scales; and

(e) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to frame Recruitment Rules which are pending since 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Services in certain specified specialized fields are being outsourced by Prasar Bharati through BECIL on contract basis.

(b) BECIL are being paid for these services as per the agreed rates which are more than the prescribed minimum wages.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Recruitment of professionals on regular basis in Prasar Bharati is not blocked on account of hiring services through BECIL.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

Categorization of TV channels

†1941. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any deliberations or going to take any action for the categorization of TV channels, fixing their telecast time and framing code of conduct for the contents of various serials and other telecasts;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives;

(c) whether proposal to mitigate the exploitation of the consumers through advertisement is also included in above measures; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) All such issues relating to content telecast on TV channels including advertisements have been considered by the Committee constituted by the Government to review the existing Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and rules framed thereunder. The Committee has submitted its report on 5.3.2008 which is available on the website of the Ministry *www.mib.nic.in* under the heading 'Code and Guidelines' subheading "Self Regulation Guidelines 2008".

Review of Cinematograph Act, 1952

1942. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to review Cinematograph Act, 1952 in view of increasing number of protests against the screening of certain films even after obtaining certificate from Censor Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government plans to seek experts' opinion on subject depicted in the film, mandatory for every films to ensure the screening of the film without any protest and controversy before providing them certificate of Censor Board; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) A review of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 is under process and the draft is in the process of consultation with concerned Ministries. However, the review is not specifically aimed at amending the Act in view of increasing number of protests against the screening of films duly certified by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.